

# The BLURB



• W3QV • W3TKQ • W3RQZ •

*Philmonts*

*Minute man*



The BLURB is published monthly by and for the members of the Phil-Mont Radio Club, Inc. Our purpose is to further the interest of amateur radio in general and mobile radio in particular. We endeavor to keep the news accurate, interesting and educational. Copying and quoting is permitted, with a credit line and we gladly exchange subscriptions with other clubs.

**DEADLINE:** All material must be in the hands of the Editor before the 15th of the month preceding issue. The BLURB is mailed on the last Monday of each month.

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Robert E. Mynster, K3UWO (A70)

### CLUB STATIONS

W3TKQ - F. Shaw, Trustee  
The Franklin Institute  
Phila., Pa.

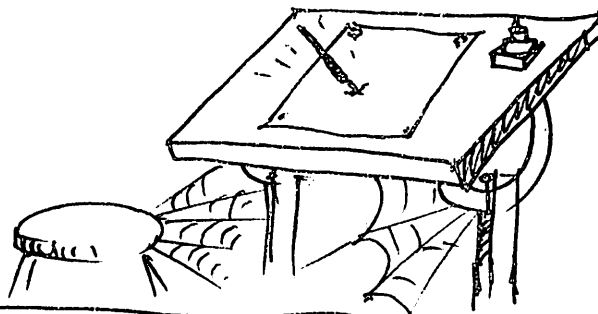
W3RQZ - R.G. Thomas, Trustee  
Town Hall, Germantown  
Phila., Pa.

W3QV - C. Spencer, Trust  
Abington Township  
Pennsylvania

### CLUB NET & FREQUENCIES

29.493mhz-1000 Sunday (10-on-10) monitored daily; 29.626mhz 2nd Freq.;  
repeater input 29.640mhz open; 3993khz ssB-0730-0845 daily; 52.525mhz (FM);  
147.78mhz.

Sam's HALF ACRE G



### THE PREZ SEZ

Last week I received a letter from a women who is writing an article on mobile amateur radio for a magazine which is aimed at those who are retired. I had to chuckle when I envisioned sending her 60 to 70 names of those who are retired from their "Phil-Mont jobs". Phil-Mont is what its members want it to be. Can each of the membership truly say that they want their club to barely exist because of disinterest? The April mid-month meeting had five members in attendance; not even enough to conduct any business. I can remember when even in a heavy snow storm we had 15 at a mid-month. I want to hear opinions from each and every one of you on what you want in your club. Call me on the land-line, drop me a card or letter or just tell me at any meeting or function. Should we disband and start over, should I step down and let someone else try, should we change our meeting location and/or programs, etc? The time has come for a metamorphosis of drones into workers. Messers QQH, MHR, KNH, GIF, etc, deserve help and a rest. Let me know what I can do to make it happen.

73's

Dick, W3WXC

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

|           |         |                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday    | July 6  | 8 PM Regular Meeting - Franklin Institute<br>Program: A Look at WFIL Station & Transmitting<br>Facilities by Dick Marshall - Chief Transmitter<br>Engineer for WFIL. |
| Wednesday | July 15 | 8 PM Mid-Month Meeting at the QTH of W3NIP                                                                                                                           |
| Wednesday | July 15 | 7 PM Annual Splash Party - QTH of W3NIP (Pre-<br>ceding the Mid-Month meeting)<br>Bring your <u>own towel</u> and swim suit.                                         |

### Regular Monthly Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Philmont Mobile Radio Club was held at the Franklin Institute on June 1, 1970. The meeting was opened by the President, W3WXC, at 2030.

The minutes of the May regular meeting were read and approved as read. There were no midmonth minutes.

There was no Treasurer's report. The Treasurer was absent.

A letter from K2AA was read by Ernie, W3DSG, thanking PMRC for cooperating with WS2JRA during the operation period commemorating SJRA's 50 years of life. Logs of the contacts are available.

The St. David's golf match will be held on June 21. A letter from Dan E. Berens complimenting PMRC's communications bus was read.

Paddlerama will be held on August 7, 8, and 9.

Field Day Committee Report by W3KN. Operators are badly needed. All the equipment is ready. The food is ready! The site is ready. The Field Day will run from 2:00 P.M. on Saturday until 5:00 P.M. on Sunday, June 27 and 28.

There were two visitors. Third visit for WA3GAP. Bill Ferrari, W3JBW, was the other visitor.

Door prizes were won by K3UWO and WA3ABU.

The venting problems at W3TKQ will be handled by Fred, W3ADV.

All information for the "Blurb" is to be sent directly to W3WXC at least two weeks before the regular meeting.

The program was our ever popular "Freebee" auction. K3RTR was the auctioneer. Club made about \$40.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Kermit Crowell, W3AJQ  
Secretary

From the N.R.

A bunch of characters got all shined up recently - it took about a half case of refreshments but they managed to get the bus looking like it was new. Can you imagine a fellow working for one company for 46 years all together? Fantastic - that is 10 years older than the Northern Reporter. Freddy just doesn't add to that many years - we think the number came from the sum of the ages of XYL & Freddy. We tried to get the ole boy back into the harness -- well part of one anyhow but he is going to take it easy for a while - when we need him we think he will be available. The young cats in the club are planning to show up all you ole cats at the Field Day. We know they can operate 3 times the speed of VVS on CW. And 4 times the 3 WPM of the NR. We are trying to get ole SGR to put a CW rig at the shore so we can get the hot stock tips over the summer weekends. Bob LLK is the only one who can hear him on 10. Without communications to the shore the stock market could crash and all us neophytes in finance would be broke without the counselors advice. We saw him and CW going at it - covering the financial pages at the last meeting. Since we are unable to rile up the Western reporter any more (the fellow - good looking - his wife is Molly) the Blurb got thinner. If we don't get going we are liable to lose Sam our world renowned artist to W3NL now KONL. Sam is famous and not because this rag contains fine words but because he is top drawer and somehow years ago before he got a ticket even - someone slid some of this blarney in the form of a pseudo newspaper behind one of his famous covers and the Blurb was re-born. Once a year we are going to have youth nite and all the ole cats are going to bring out a young fellow or 4 who is interested in hamming. The meeting will be geared to the newcomers and maybe planned and programmed by some of the young fellows in the club - wat do you think of that idea - some more though ought to bring up some good activity that will get some more young blook in the club. Now next meeting is a good time to try out how many young fellows we can get out with school over and the evenings free of homework. Some definite suggestions by one of our younger troops are in order to permit easier attendance of the new cats. One suggestion a definite shut off time like 9:30 PM. This coupled with some other ideas might make it a lot easier - How about starting the meeting with the program first - to fixed schedule - followed by the bull session to a fixed schedule - this way the young gang can leave before the baloney if they want to. Also lower the dues for the kids in school to about \$2 - one dollar less than the NR pays. Also start the program in the winter season at 7:30 and quit at 9:30. Anyway next meeting all you old cats get a young fellow under your wing and bring him out. The Freebee auction sure had some goodies that went for little - a 23 TV for \$7.00 and working too. A fellow up in the north nearby to the NR is as usual completely out of phase with the times - W3PXY is trying to collect some RTTY hardware well after the crest of interest (about 1960) has well passed. We heard a

### N.R. Cont'd

very bad report that Irv (coffee potter) got waffled in the rear and messed up his neck and back. Sounds like not good - the trouble with those accidents is that they leave you with sore spots that never go away. Sorry to hear that Irv - wonder if you had one of the head rests in the car in position at the time. You would think that with Tom W3VCE our Most Northern member from Point Barrow Alaska would get a rig and antenna on the air that would poke a hole into this area. We believe Tom is only on 10. Get some gear going on 20 with a beam Tom and drop a note to the Blurb to advertise same and we can keep in a little better touch. We can't believe that Al WA3GOP (Al Gop to you) at 16 years old has his extra class ticket and 2nd class commercial - W3ADF (Beer Barrel Bill) is being heard more regularly on 75. He has a new 19 ft runabout that has a minimum speed of about 30 MPH which is about the same speed the kids try for at the Paddle - your-rama on the Delaware which is coming up - see events column. The group does a good job of providing Comm for this once a year event of the Boy Scouts. Seems like the Yardley gang make out pretty well with plenty of water at the front door to practice on. Some how ole Windy Bill Ex W3CUB now in Fla. will not talk to the NR any more - don't know why. We sure need the Champeen Bridge player back again to keep us straight. How about it Del - how can you stand him? The boys on 3900 haven't heard Bill for some time - hope all is well.

### BY-LAW COMMITTEE REPORT

The rules of election have been printed and are ready for distribution.

The latest copy of the By-Laws along with the new rules of election have been given to the officers and board of directors. If I don't receive any formal requests for changes to the By-Laws by the July Mid-Month Meeting I will try to have them printed and then distributed along with the new rules of election.

Edward J. Jars,  
By-Law Committee Chairman

### CHANNEL CHATTER

WA3LLK is on two meters now.

One of our most deserving members and dedicated builders won the multi-meter door prize.

Jim, K3PHC is still istening for 75M check ins on 3993 between 7:00 and 7:30 AM Zulu provided he doesn't sleep too late that morning. Check Roosters on 3990 before 7 to see if he's awake.

Mason Frankenfield, W3PBR is still in the Leader Convalescent Home in Yeadon. He is anxious to hear from us. (South Lansdowne Ave. near Providence Rd.)

Press Release by Fred Bauer WA3DMR

PHIL-MONT AMATEURS TAKE TO THE FIELD  
FOR ROUND-THE-CLOCK RADIO CONTEST

Except for occasional views of a 40-foot portable tower, the field at 9200 Ridge Avenue may appear no different to passing motorists on June 27 than on any other day. But to members of the Phil-Mont Radio Club, who have chosen this spot as their 1970 "Field Day" site, the area will be one of intense activity.

Members of Phil-Mont from Philadelphia, Montgomery, Bucks, Delaware, Camden and Burlington Counties will be competing in the national Field Day Contest sponsored by the American Radio Relay League, Inc. Object of the ARRL competition is to have American radio amateurs set up portable stations, running on self-generated emergency power, and make as many contacts as possible with home stations and other portable stations.

The contest has been held on the fourth full week-end in June every year since 1933. It combines the competitive aspects of the electronic hobby with a test of the preparedness and endurance of the nations' amateur radio operators, who now number more than 250,000. Strict rules govern the type of equipment to be used, the number of operators allowed at a given time and fix the hours of operation between 3:00 p.m. Saturday, June 27 and 6:00 p.m. Sunday, June 28.

Since clubs are forbidden to use permanent installations and pay a stiff point penalty for using commercial power, Philadelphia's Phil-Monters will not be able to use W3TKQ, their plush demonstration station in the Franklin Institute.

Instead, the club will operate from W3QV (portable 3), a 37-foot school bus which the members have converted into a completely equipped mobile communication center. The vehicle accommodates six operating stations and boasts a five kilowatt gasoline generator, air conditioning, teletype and even a galley with a sink and a single electric burner. Seven radio antennas, plus the portable tower sprout from its roof.

In addition to the bus, the club will set up tents at the Ridge Avenue location to serve as eating and sleeping quarters for operating crews, who must man their equipment continuously in order to take advantage of radio propagation conditions.

"We've done very well in past Field Day competitions", says Richard Klein, President of Phil-Mont, "and we expect a better than average turn-out this year. Our members like Field Day because it's a group, rather than an individual enterprise. We think that spirit is important....more than ever these days."

The public, Klein noted is welcome to stop by the operating site and look at the portable station in operation.

## TECHNIGRAM

### The Kitchen Faucet Squirt Antenna

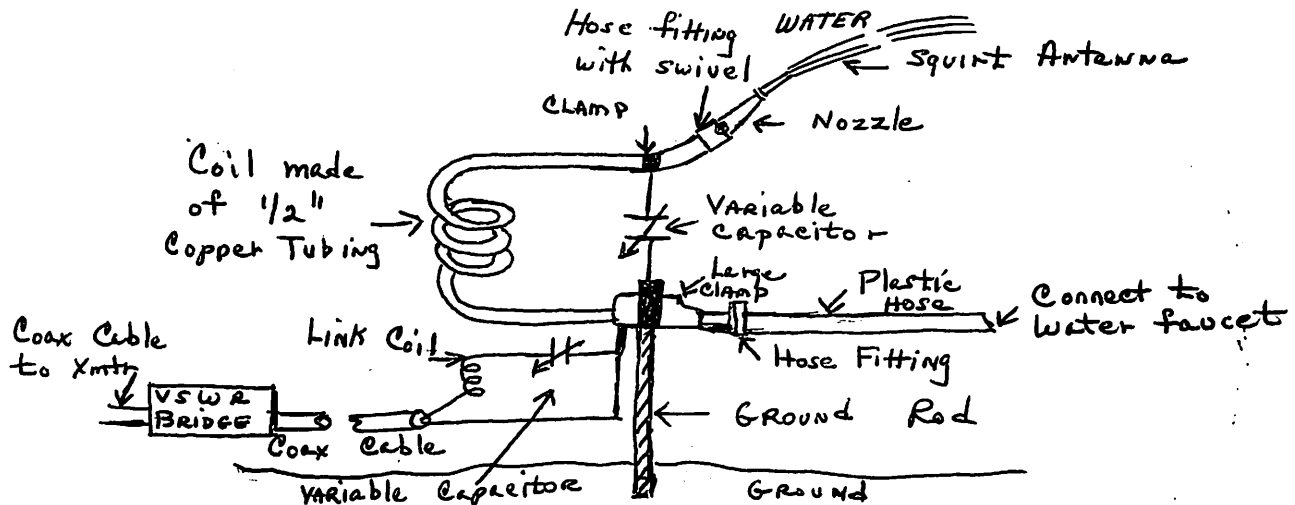
Early last spring, while pushing the lawnmower, my mind was cogitating on the desirability of a vertical antenna to get a low radiation angle, and thus improve DX performance relative to the long wire which I had been using for five years. The trouble with a vertical, I mumbled to myself, is the need for a great many ground radials, maybe as many as 100 radials, in order to have a reasonably high antenna system efficiency.

But (continuing the monolog), if the ground happens to be moist, the resulting high conductivity of the ground would reduce the need for radials. The better the ground conductivity, the fewer radials required. In fact, a  $5/8$  wavelength vertical antenna above a sea water ground plane would make an excellent HF DX antenna without any radials at all. Actually, isn't that just what is used aboard ships at sea? Could I eliminate the radials by keeping the ground wet? I might buy a vertical, and erect it in the center of the lawn, and keep the lawn sprinkler running while operating.

And then the thought struck - why buy an antenna at all? Why not use the water itself ejected from the hose nozzle as the antenna? The nozzle could be aimed in any desired direction, even over the fence to the neighbor's property. The neighbors would surely have no objection - they'd probably appreciate my watering their lawn from time to time.

The water would serve at least three purposes: First, the water itself would serve as the antenna, and antenna height could be adjusted by controlling the water pressure via the faucet on the hose outlet. Secondly, the water falling to the ground would soak into the ground, and eliminate the need for ground radials. And thirdly, the water stream could be readily aimed in any desired direction, thus providing a degree of antenna directivity and gain. Finally, as a bonus, I'd be watering the lawn at the same time with no added effort. The whole approach seemed worthy of experiment.

A little deep thought produced the following hook-up:





### TECHNIGRAM CONT'D

The test was initially made on 20 meters. A length of half-9nch soft copper pipe was bent into a coil of 4 turns, approximately 10 inches in diameter. This is the large coil shown in the figure. A transmitter type variable capacitor, approximately 100 MMFD size, was used to tune the coil. The bottom end of the coil was clamped to a 6-ft copper-clad steel ground rod which was driven into the ground to a depth of about 5-1/2 ft. The ground rod supported the entire assembly.

A one-half inch water hose fitting was soldered to the bottom end of the coiled pipe. Similarly, a hose fitting (this one having a swivel joint) was soldered to the top of the coil. An adjustable nozzle was screwed into the top fitting, as shown in the sketch, and an ordinary one-half inch plastic hose connected to the bottom fitting. The other end of the hose was screwed into a water outlet.

RF energy was coupled to the coiled pipe by means of a two turn link about 5 inches in diameter, made of #12 copper wire. A length of coaxial cable was connected to the link through a VSWR bridge. A small 100 mmfd variable capacity was hooked up in series with the ground return from the link.

The water was then turned on at full city pressure, and the nozzle swivel set at a 45 degree angle from the vertical in order to obtain the maximum throw of water. The nozzle itself was adjusted to provide the least degree of water spreading at the maximum height. The result was that a homogeneous stream of water reached a vertical height of about 40 feet at a slant angle of 45 degrees before the stream broke up into separate blobs of water. This water stream, therefore, provided a 45 degree slanted vertical antenna about 55 feet long in the selected direction.

With the water flowing as above, low power RF was fed into the link, and the two variable capacitors adjusted such that a zero reflected power reading was obtained on the VSWR bridge. Full transmitter power was then applied.

Results were interesting, but not quite acceptable. Holding a 50-watt bulb by the glass, and permitting the center electrical contact to just touch the flowing stream of water resulted in full lamp brilliancy. Similarly, the old trick of letting a wooden lead pencil point touch the water produced a fat arc from the water to the pencil, at a point in the stream close to the nozzle. However, both the lamp brilliancy and the arc deteriorated rapidly a few feet from the nozzle. It was clear that the conductivity of the water was too low to permit efficient current distribution throughout the entire length of the water stream antenna. Essentially the same results were obtained with both cold and hot water. Nevertheless, the squirt antenna did indeed radiate, as was confirmed by several QSO's, including appropriately enough, one contact with a PAØ station.

## TECHNIGRAM CONT'D

An attempt was made to obtain improved efficiency by inserting a two gallon can containing salt tablets between the water supply and the coiled pipe. Better performance was noted as a result of higher antenna conductivity; in fact, several 100 watt bulbs were burnt out during the water touch test. Unfortunately, the experiment had to be called to a halt before conclusive data could be accumulated on DX performance, due to reduced water pressure and municipal water restrictions during the dry summer season. It is planned to continue tests on this antenna system next spring. A supplementary report will be submitted if there is any further interest in this subject.

W2KF - Ken

\* \* \*

The Pack Rat picnic will be held on Sunday, August 9 at the Fort Washington State Park, Flourtown, Pa.

\* \* \*

### SWAP AND SHOP

For Sale - Heath AG-7 audio generator, IM-27 VTVM, CTA-1 condx checker, Eico 324 signal generator, Eico 950B CAP. bridge, Elmac PMR-7 recvr, Lafayette TE-21 tube checker, BC 221 with Book, w beams  
Estate VF of K3GNJ -- Contact Jim Spencer for prices - 884-8469

For Sale - Link hi band FM rcvrs, 110V AC \$25.00, 2 mtr FM transceiver 110 V AC with xtals for 146.94, T/R less cabinet \$65.00, Comco model 278-220 MC nearly new \$25.00, Kaar imp 2 mtr transceiver \$20.00.

Contact Jim Spencer 884-8469

\* \* \*

The annual banquet is coming - will you be there?

\* \* \*

### Inuendo Of The Month

Who is the man with the 1000 watt smile and the 2 watt heart ? Ask K3KNH.

\* \* \*

PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB INC.



*The "Blurb"*

**A PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO  
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